wards of Bhopal at the time of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster in December, 1984, at the rate of Rs. 200/- per month.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, till 3rd August, 1990, accounts have been opened by banks for 1,35,458 beneficiaries.

Import of Paraxylene

1372. SHRI A.G. KULKARNI:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the exact capacity for which permission was granted to M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. for the manufacture of paraxylene and whether the imported plant had the same capacity i.e., 50,000 tonnes;

(b) whether the production of paraxylene was permitted under clearance from MRTP and other similar provisions and whether it was permitted to sell or only for captive use;

(c) how much paraxylene was imported by various consumers like Bombay Dyeing, IPCL Baroda, and others during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and what was the customs duty and the international price at that point of time and final landed price; and

(d) whether the price fixed by the Cost Cell of Finance Ministry is on high side than what BICP recommended and whether is BICP working out fair selling price?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Industrial licence of M/s. RIL was endorsed for 67,000 tonnes of paraxylene subject to certain conditions after following prescribed procedure.

(c) During 1988-89 PX was under OGL and users directly made the imports. IPCL, who was the canalising agency during 88-89 imported 42199 MT of PX for producers of DMT. Custom duty on PX which was 90% at the beginning of the year was lowered to 80% later on. International prices of PX have been fluctuating during the year and it ranged between US $ 795/T C&F in March 1989 to US $ 407/T in February, 1990. Accordingly, landed price also varied and the landed price for the last parcel imported by ICPL was around 14000/T.

(d) BICP has been asked to examine the fair selling price of indigenous paraxylene.

Procuring of orders by Engineering Projects India Ltd. and Engineers India Ltd.

1373. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Engineering Projects India Ltd., and Engineers India Ltd. act as middlemen in the execution of heavy orders by giving the same on subcontract to other public and private sector manufacturers and structuring companies and earn profits of crores of rupees ;

(b) whether these companies have been allotted huge amount of work in Durgapur Modernisation Project and they have sublet the same to other public sectors companies like MAMC, HEC, BHEL etc., after getting heavy margin of profit ;

(c) whether the objective of such companies is to work as middle

agent or to increase country's production by switching to manufacturing ;

(d) whether these companies are justifying the purpose for which these have been set up ; and

(e) if not, what is Government's re-action thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : The Information pertaining to Engineering Projects (I) Ltd. (EPI) is given below :

(a) EPI is executing projects mainly on turn-key basis from design engineering upto erection and commissioning. EPI has been carrying substantial in-house design engg. and executing works departmentally. Orders for equipments are placed on other companies after following due procedure. Thus, EPI is not acting as middle man.

(b) The total value of Durgapur Modernisation Project is Rs. 400 crores (approx.) and EPI's share of business is about Rs. 62 crores. This business was secured through competitive bids. The Company has placed orders (value about Rs. 2 crores) for sophisticated equipments with some public sector companies like MAMC, HEC & Instrumentation Ltd.

(c) EPI has been set up to carry on business as prime turn-key contractor in specialised fields.

(d) The company's operations are within the objectives set out at the time of inception.

(e) Not applicable. The information pertaining to Engineers India Ltd. is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign collaboration for manufacture of washing machines

1374. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1546 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th March, 1990 and state :

(a) what has been the foreign exchange outflow on knowhow, capital goods and components for the manufacture of washing machines ; and

(b) what has been the foreign exchange earning ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

हेवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, रांची की अवस्थिति

1375. श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान रांची से प्रकाशित होने वाले दैनिक समाचार पत्र "प्रभात खबर" में एच.ई.सी. को इसकी लापरवाही के कारण प्रतिवर्ष एक करोड़ रुपये की हानि' (लाख आफ रूपीज वन क्रोर पर इयर टू एच.ई.सी आन एकाउंट आफ इट्स नेगलीजेंस) शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि हैवीइंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन को काम के आर्डर नहीं मिल पा रहे हैं क्योंकि यह काम को समय पर पूरा नहीं करता है जिसके परिणाम स्वरूप आर्डर देने वाली पार्टी को काफी वित्तीय नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि हैवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन कच्चे माल की खरीद के लिए उन्हीं पार्टियों को आर्डर